

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following is a complete listing of the claims indicating the current status of each claim and including amendments currently entered as highlighted.

I. (currently amended) A method for producing abrasive non-woven cloth comprising:

- (a) forming a non-woven web of fibers including at least:
 - (i) ~~_____ a first layer adjacent to a first surface of the web containing at least about 5% by weight of thermoplastic fibers, and~~
 - (ii) ~~_____ a second layer of fibers adjacent to a second surface of the web; said second layer having a composition different from a composition of said first layer;~~
- (b) processing the web by use of water jets so as:
 - (i) ~~_____ to interlink cause water entanglement of the fibers to form a cloth including layers corresponding to said first and second layers of fibers, and~~ said processing patterning the web so as
 - (ii) ~~_____ to generate a pattern of raised regions and lowered regions in said first surface; and~~
- (c) ~~performing heat treatment on said web heating said cloth sufficiently:~~
 - (i) ~~_____ to dry the water entangled cloth, and~~
 - (ii) ~~_____ to cause at least part of said thermoplastic fibers to undergo changes in physical morphology, thereby imparting abrasive properties to at least said raised regions of said first surface~~

2 (currently amended) The method of ~~claim 1~~, claim 28, wherein said second layer contains primarily fibers which do not undergo changes in physical morphology under said heat treatment

3 (currently amended) The method of claim 2, wherein said ~~patterning~~ processing is implemented so as to cause migration of at least a proportion of fibers within said first layer from said lowered regions to said raised regions.

4 (currently amended) The method of claim 2, wherein said ~~patterning~~ processing is implemented so as to cause migration of a majority of fibers making up said first layer in said lowered regions to said raised regions

5 (canceled)

6 (currently amended) The method of ~~claim 5~~, claim 1, wherein said water jets are directed towards a portion of said web passing over a cylinder with a perforated surface

7 (currently amended) The method of ~~claim 5~~, claim 1, wherein said water jets are directed towards a portion of said web passing over a cylinder with a netting surface.

8 (currently amended) The method of ~~claim 5~~, claim 1, wherein said water jets are directed towards a portion of said web passing along a patterned conveyor belt.

9 (canceled)

10. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said ~~patterning~~
processing is implemented such that said raised regions include a plurality of isolated
projecting features surrounded by said lowered regions.

11. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said ~~patterning~~
processing is implemented such that said raised regions include a plurality of
elongated ridges.

12. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein said thermoplastic
fibers have a weight of no more than about 4.5 grams per 10,000 meters.

13. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein said thermoplastic
fibers have a weight of no more than about 2.2 grams per 10,000 meters.

14. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein said first layer contains
at least about 10% by weight of said thermoplastic fibers.

15. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein said first layer contains
less than about 50% by weight of said thermoplastic fibers.

16. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein said first layer contains
more than about 50% by weight of said thermoplastic fibers.

17-27. (canceled)

28. (new) The method of claim 1, wherein said forming a non-woven web of fibers further includes forming a second layer of fibers adjacent to a second surface of the web, said second layer having a composition different from a composition of said first layer, and wherein said processing of the web by use of water jets is implemented so as to cause water entanglement to form a cloth including layers corresponding to said first and second layers of fibers.